Rep. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-02) released the following statement celebrating Memorial Day, which Monday May 30, 2011.

"This time of year our nation pauses to honor the memories of the brave men and women who sacrificed their lives defending the freedoms that make our nation the greatest on earth. It is especially important during this time of war that we take a moment to support those who have lost loved ones or have family members currently serving overseas.

"Over the last few years, we made historic progress for veterans, ranging from the new GI Bill to provide returning troops with the promise of a college education to making historic investments in veterans' health care. And this week I introduced the Hiring Heroes Act of 2011, which will improve the assistance and training available to our veterans, and encourage businesses and government contractors to hire the brave men and women who developed valuable skills while in the armed forces. We have an obligation to help our veterans land on their feet when they come home and this bill will help them find good paying jobs to support their families.

"On the battlefield, the military pledges to leave no soldier behind. As a nation, we must pledge that when they return home, we leave no veteran behind. As Americans gather to pray for our fallen heroes, tell stories of their bravery in battle, and pay homage to the friends and families left behind, we should also consider how we can repay our debt of gratitude."

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